



## **OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767  
Telephone: 512/854-9400  
Fax: 512/854-4206

**MARGARET MOORE**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**MINDY MONTFORD**  
FIRST ASSISTANT

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Contact: Denise Hernandez  
512/854-9400

### **Man sentenced to 13 years in prison for stalking**

Yesterday a Travis County Jury found 27-year old Jacob Busbee guilty of stalking and sentenced him to 13 years in prison. Busbee was accused of stalking a 47-year old Austin woman in November 2017, after being released from prison on a separate stalking charge out of Williamson County involving the same victim and her family. Busbee continued to stalk the victim until March 2018.

During trial, witnesses testified that Busbee first started stalking the victim in 2013, after she ended their relationship. Defendant's stalking behavior started with repetitive text messages threatening to assault the victim, the victim's significant other, and her family. The behavior escalated in February 2018 when the defendant began sending pornographic images to the victim's employer, threatening to kill himself if the victim did not meet with him.

The jury deliberated for an hour and returned a verdict of guilty for 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Stalking with a Prior Stalking Conviction, and sentenced the defendant to 13 years in prison.

The case was heard by Judge Brenda Kennedy in the 403<sup>rd</sup> District Court and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney's Denise Hernandez and Justin Ohuery. Following the verdict, ADA Hernandez stated, "Stalking cases are dangerous offenses that indicate unsettling dynamics of abuse, power, and control. The jury's verdict sends a strong message to the community that domestic violence in all forms is unacceptable."